**St Joseph’s National School**

**Milltownpass**

**Co Westmeath**

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*Principal: Mrs. Pauline O’Hara Acting Deputy Principal: Ms. Emma Martin*

2/10’19 **October Newsletter**

**Enrolment Ceremony**

The Enrolment ceremony for First Communion and Confirmation pupils will take place this Sunday 6th October in Milltownpass Church at 10.15am mass.

**Aladdin**

We are delighted to announce that we are working with the Mullingar Arts Centre once again this year. Pupils from 3rd to 6th classes and the Reach class will be performing the musical Aladdin in conjunction with the Arts centre. Ms. Claire Gilmartin and Ms. Alika Lynch have begun rehearsing with the children and will visit the school every Monday for rehearsals. The date we have been given for our concert is Wednesday 15th January 2020 and it will take place in the Mullingar Arts centre. More details to follow regarding time, tickets etc. All costumes, lighting and props are being provided by the Arts Centre.

The cost per child for the lessons has not been finalised yet.

**Cross Country**

Last Wednesday pupils from 1st to 6th classes and the Reach Class participated in the annual Cross Country running in Belvedere. Once again we had great success, with 2 medal winners; Levahna Cleary and Cian Fox. A fantastic day out was had by all! I wish to congratulate all of the pupils on their excellent behaviour on the day. They did themselves proud once again!

**Parent/teacher meetings**

These will be held during the week beginning Monday 14thOctober. A time slot will be allocated to each family next week.

**Shoebox Appeal**

Once again this year we are participating in this worthwhile cause. Information leaflets have been distributed to the children. The boxes will be collected on Thursday 7th November from the school.

**Book Fair**

We will be having a Scholastic Book Fair from Tuesday 19th November to Tuesday 26th November. Further details to follow nearer the time.

**New Board of Management**

As our current Board of Management is coming to the end of its 4 year term of office, we will shortly begin the process of electing a new Board of Management for the term 2019-2023. Further details to follow.

**Football Training**

Ms. Martin has resumed football training with the boys and girls. Matches will be scheduled in the coming weeks.

**Parents Association AGM**

As you are aware the Parents Association are holding their AGM on **Thursday 10th October** at 8.30pm in the school. A number of committee members no longer have children attending the school and others are stepping down this year so it is vital that each family is represented at the meeting. The Parents Association is an invaluable support to our school and without their fundraising efforts many activities would not happen.

**Stations**

Station Teaching in Literacy is being implemented in 5th and 6th classes at the moment.

 *“This is when each teacher works with a small group of children who rotate among various stations to complete different tasks, allowing all students to experience small group tuition and individual attention”*

**Paired Reading**

A programme of Paired Reading is underway between 1st, 2nd, Infants and the Reach class

**Art/Photocopying Money/School Insurance**

Some outstanding monies are still due. Please contact the office if you are unsure whether you have paid or not. These payments are now overdue. Thank you.

**Congratulations**

We wish to extend our congratulations to Mr.Foy on the recent birth of his baby boy.

**Good luck!!!**

Finally from all of us here at St. Joseph’s, we would like to wish the Milltownpass Intermediate football team the very best of luck in the final on Sunday 6th October

Yours sincerely

Pauline O’Hara

Principal

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